

CABINET

Wednesday, 19th July, 2017
Time of Commencement: 7.00 pm

Present:- Councillor Elizabeth Shenton – in the Chair
Councillors Beech, Kearon, Turner, J Williams, Rout and Robinson
Officers Executive Director (Resources and Support Services) - Kelvin Turner, Executive Director (Operational Services) - David Adams, Executive Director (Regeneration and Development) - Neale Clifton, Chief Executive - John Sellgren and Jayne Briscoe - Scrutiny Officer

1. APOLOGIES

There were no apologies.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest stated.

3. MINUTES

Resolved: That the minutes held on 7 and 27 June, 2017 be agreed as a correct record.

4. CUSTOMER PORTAL

A report was submitted to Cabinet seeking approval for the procurement and introduction of an online customer portal for the Council.

- Resolved:** (i) That the issues outlined in the business case, which was attached as an appendix to the report, be noted.
- (ii) That officers be authorised to undertake a procurement process for a customer portal for accessing council services.
- (iii) That the Executive Director (Resources and Support Services) be given delegated authority, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Finance IT and Customer, to award a contract following the completion of the procurement process.

5. OPTIONS FOR FUTURE DELIVERY OF DEBT ADVICE SERVICES IN THE BOROUGH 2017-2020

A report was submitted to Cabinet advising members of the current situation regarding a review of continuing the delivery of a General Debt Advice Service and potential impact of funding changes.

The report also sought approval for the future delivery.

- Resolved:**
- (i) That the proposal as set out in this report be approved and officers be authorised to engage and develop a specification to deliver the commissioning of a Financial Well-Being & Debt Advice Service in the borough to support activities to prevent an increase in debt whilst maintaining a service for the most vulnerable.
 - (ii) That future changes to debt advice provision and alignment of partnership services by officers, to support a proactive and accessible approach by providers be supported.
 - (iii) That the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Policy, People & Partnerships, be authorised to finalise the Financial Well-Being & Debt Advice Service and commission the preferred service provider.

6. SPORTS PROVISION IN KIDSGROVE

On opening this item the Leader addressed the 3 questions submitted to Cabinet on 27 June by Lee Hartshorne together with those submitted to the 19 July meeting by the Kidsgrove Sports Centre Action Group. The Leader read out the response to each question and a written copy was also circulated.

A report was submitted to Cabinet to consider a range of issues relating to the provision of sporting activities for the Kidsgrove area.

Mr Lee Hartshorne – spokesperson for “Committed to Leisure Facilities in Kidsgrove” addressed the Cabinet.

Councillor Turner – Portfolio Holder for Finance, IT and Customer regretted the closure of the Centre but that was the current situation. Councillor Turner also stated that the comments being made on social media were not helpful.

An expert in leisure provision was required and also interest from the private sector or charitable trusts for example.

Members were advised that the Council would draw up plans, fully costed for next summer and that the Community Trust needed a business plan and agreement from the County Council.

Councillor Robinson – Portfolio Holder for Planning and Housing advised Cabinet of a consultation regarding the interim sports facilities in Kidsgrove and that as many people as possible were being asked to engage in order that something could be put into place in the interim. There would be a further consultation on the longer term facilities in the area.

Councillor Robinson also raised the social care aspect. Keeping our population healthy would be a better outcome and would save money. The land could be used as a community hub which could include provision of a health centre.

Councillor Ann Beech – Portfolio Holder for Operational Services thanked the Leader, Deputy Leader and Councillor Amelia Rout – Portfolio Holder for Leisure and Culture for trying to find a solution.

- Resolved:**
- (i) That it be noted that, due to the age and condition of the building it is no longer a viable to operate a service from this facility.
 - (ii) That in accordance with the spirit and intent of the District Deal Agreement, Cabinet continue to work closely with Staffordshire County Council to safeguard and secure control of the land that the existing centre occupies to facilitate a replacement sports facility and a joint approach to securing the initial capital investment.
 - (iii) That Cabinet prioritises the re-provision in the local area of interim dry-side activities and receives an update report.
 - (iv) That the progress made with negotiations with neighbouring local authorities and at its J2 facility for interim swimming pool use be noted and those negotiations continue.
 - (v) That the progress made with consulting service users and local residents in respect of re-provision of interim facilities be noted.
 - (vi) That subject to the agreement of Full Council to the principle of re-provision of a sports centre in the Kidsgrove area, resources be secured to commission project support that examines options available and produces a funded business case for an affordable replacement local facility.
 - (vii) That should a community trust be successful in acquiring an interest in the building from its owners, it is proposed that the Council engages with the group in a positive and supportive way.
 - (viii) That a Stakeholders Consultation Group be established to help shape the planning of replacement facilities in the local area.

7. LYME VALLEY PARKING

A report was submitted to Cabinet outlining proposals to improve car parking at the Lyme Valley, A34 car park.

- Resolved:**
- (i) That the proposals to commence consultation on the Traffic Regulation Order, to introduce parking management on the Lyme Valley car park – situated off the A34, both in the Borough's and Stoke City Council's administrative areas and any associated agreements be approved.
 - (ii) That the Executive Director for Regeneration and

Development, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Town Centres. Property and Business be authorised to consider the consultation responses and adopt the Traffic Regulation Order and implement the enforcement arising.

8. HYBRID MAIL

A report was submitted to Cabinet seeking approval to enter into a four year Contract with PSL Print Management Ltd for the delivery of hybrid mail services.

Resolved: That the Council enter into a four year contract with PSL Print Management Ltd for the delivery of 'hybrid mail' services.

9. URGENT BUSINESS

There was no Urgent Business.

COUNCILLOR ELIZABETH SHENTON
Chair

Meeting concluded at 7.45 pm